



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
 NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
 NORTHEAST REGION
 One Blackburn Drive
 Gloucester, MA 01930-2298

September 17, 2001

Dear Permit Holder:

This is to notify you that NMFS has determined that at least 1.67 million lb (759 metric tons (mt)) of Gulf of Maine (GOM) cod has been landed as of July 31, 2001. Therefore, pursuant to Framework Adjustment 33 of the Northeast Multispecies Fishery Management Plan (FMP) and specified at CFR 50 648.81(o), the two conditional GOM closure areas identified in the FMP will be implemented. The Cashes Ledge Closure Area will be closed for an additional month from November 1, 2001, through November 30, 2001, and the area identified as Rolling Closure Area VI will be closed for an additional month from January 1, 2002, through January 31, 2002. These conditional closures will better ensure that GOM cod landings remain within the target Total Allowable Catch (TAC) of 1,918 mt established for the 2001 fishing year.

The coordinates for the Conditional Closure Areas are:

Cashes Ledge Closure Area (Nov. 1 - 30, 2001)

<u>Point</u>	<u>N. Lat.</u>	<u>W. Long.</u>
CL1	43E07'	69E02'
CL2	42E49.5'	68E46'
CL3	42E46.5'	68E50.5'
CL4	42E43.5'	68E58.5'
CL5	42E42.5'	69E17.5'
CL6	42E49.5'	69E26'
CL1	43E07'	69E02'

Rolling Closure Area VI (Jan. 1 - 31, 2002)

<u>Point</u>	<u>N. Lat.</u>	<u>W. Long.⁽¹⁾</u>
GM1	42E00'	⁽²⁾
GM2	42E00'	⁽³⁾
GM3	42E00'	⁽⁴⁾
GM4	42E00'	70E00'
GM8	42E30'	70E00'
GM9	42E30'	⁽²⁾

¹ Or other intersecting line:

² Massachusetts shoreline

³ Cape Cod shoreline on Cape Cod Bay

⁴ Cape Cod shoreline on the Atlantic Ocean

These conditional closure areas apply to all fishing vessels, and to all fishing gear capable of catching Northeast multispecies, except for vessels fishing with exempted gear or vessels possessing a GOM Charter/Party Letter of Authorization. Vessels may transit the conditional closure areas provided that all fishing gear is stowed in accordance with regulations. All other closure areas for the 2001 fishing year remain unchanged.



This letter is only a summary of the regulations that have been implemented. You are encouraged to obtain further information or a copy of the regulations by calling (978) 281-9278. This letter does not contain all of the regulatory provisions that pertain to the conditional closure areas. A copy of the regulations can also be obtained through the link to the Office of the Federal Register at the NMFS Northeast Regional Office's Web Site: <http://www.nero.nmfs.gov/ro/doc/nero.html>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patricia A. Kurkul". The signature is stylized with a large, looped initial "P" and a long, sweeping underline.

Patricia A. Kurkul
Regional Administrator